

## Message Text

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ORIGIN DHA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 SCA-01 AID-05 INSE-00  
VO-03 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00  
SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /074 R

DRAFTED BY D/HA/ORM:SCLOWMAN:AVR  
APPROVED BY D/HA - MR. CARLIN  
EA - R. OAKLEY  
EA/TIMBS - MR.FRITTS  
EA/VLC:JOHNSON

-----003362 311850Z /45

O 311827Z AUG 77 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USMISSION GENEVA NIACT IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 208250

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, LA, TH, SHUM, PDIP

SUBJECT: THAI LAO BORDER CLOSURE AT NONG KHAI-THA DEUA

REF: BANGKOK 19375; VIENTIANE 1243

1. REFTEL BEING REPEATED GENEVA IMMEDIATE OUTLINES  
SITUATION IN WHICH 69 LAOTIAN REFUGEES BEING DETAINED AND  
CARED FOR IN NONG KHAI PENDING RTG DECISION AS TO WHETHER  
THEY SHOULD BE FORCIBLY REPATRIATED.

2. THIS IS A FIRST EXAMPLE OF THE TYPE OF SITUATION WHICH  
WE HAVE FEARED MAY BE DEVELOPING, PARTIALLY AS A RESULT OF  
RECENT CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN UNHCR AND THE RTG. IT WAS  
THIS CONCERN WHICH PROMPTED DEPARTMENT TO REQUEST A  
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DEMARCHE ON THIS SUBJECT TO THE RTG AND TO THE HRC.

3. WE ARE PARTICULARLY CONCERNED NOW THAT UNHCR REP  
BANGKOK BERTA'S WELL KNOWN POSITION FAVORING THE RETURN OF  
"ECONOMIC" REFUGEES TO LAOS WILL ENCOURAGE RTG TO MAKE A  
DECISION IN THIS CASE TO FORCIBLY REPATRIATE THIS GROUP.

4. AS INDICATED REF B, WE BELIEVE IT NEXT TO IMPOSSIBLE TO  
CLEARLY DELINEATE MOTIVATIONS FOR REFUGEES DEPARTURE AS

ECONOMIC OR POLITICAL UNDER CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES.  
ADDITIONALLY, WE BELIEVE IT HIGHLY LIKELY THAT SUCH  
REFUGEES WOULD BE SUBJECT TO POLITICAL PERSECUTION IF  
FORCIBLY RETURNED.

5. REQUEST AMBASSADOR CONTACT HCR ON AN URGENT BASIS AND,  
DRAWING UPON ARGUMENTATION REF B, URGE HCR INSTRUCT  
UNHCR BANGKOK TO VIGOROUSLY PROTEST PROPOSED REFOULEMENT  
OF THESE REFUGEES. PLEASE ADVISE BY IMMEDIATE CABLE.  
CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEES, BORDER CONTROLS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 31-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE208250  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** SCLOWMAN:AVR  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770315-0326  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t1977082/aaaaabkx.tel  
**Line Count:** 75  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 07e95b52-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN DHA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 BANGKOK 19375, 77 VIENTIANE 1243  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1473676  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** THAI LAO BORDER CLOSURE AT NONG KHAI-THA DEUA  
**TAGS:** PBOR, SHUM, PDIP, LA, TH  
**To:** GENEVA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/07e95b52-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009